AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Substitute the following claim(s) for the pending claim(s) of the same number:

1. (Currently amended) A pipe connection consisting of a pipe [(10)], a holding plate [(14)] and a connection piece [(18)], the pipe being provided with a collar [(12)] which serves as an abutment for the holding plate, and the connection piece being provided with a groove [(18b)] into which the holding plate engages.

2. (Currently amended) The pipe connection according to Claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the connection piece is provided with a mounting [(18c)] for a seal [(16)] and the seal engages on the collar [(12)] on the opposite side from the holding plate [(14)].

3. (Currently amended) The pipe connection according to Claim 1, wherein ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ the collar [(12)] is formed by a bulged region of the pipe [(10)].

4. (Currently amended) The pipe connection according to Claim 1, wherein ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the holding plate [(14)] has an abutment section [(14a)] running radially to the longitudinal axis of the pipe [(10)], which lies against the collar [(12)], and a conical holding section [(14b)], which extends starting from the abutment section and engages into the groove [(18b)].

5. (Currently amended) The pipe connection according to Claim 1, wherein ~~any of the preceding claims, characterized in that~~ the connection piece [(18)] is provided with a contact surface [(18a)] for a spreading tool [(22)] which can engage on the holding plate [(14)].

6. (Currently amended) A method for the manufacture of a pipe connection comprising the steps of ~~according to any of the preceding claims by means of the following steps~~:

a. providing a pipe having a collar, a holding plate, and a connection piece having a groove formed therein;

b. pushing the holding plate [(4)] ~~is pushed~~ onto the pipe [(10)], so that it lies against the collar [(12)];

c. pressing the pipe ~~is pressed~~ into the connection piece [(18)] by means of a clamping tool [(20)] which engages on the holding plate;

d. pressing a spreading tool [(22)] ~~is pressed~~ against the holding plate, so that the holding section [(14b)] is widened conically started from an annular initial shape, whereby it engages into the groove [(18b)] in the connection piece.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the clamping tool [(20)] consists of two parts which, joined together, surround the pipe [(10)].

8. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~or 7, characterized in that~~ the spreading tool [(22)] consists of two parts which, joined together, surround the clamping tool [(20)].

9. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~any of Claims 6 to 8, characterized in that~~ a seal [(16)] is placed onto the pipe [(10)] before the insertion into the connection piece [(18)], which seal [(16)] is compressed by means of the clamping tool [(20)] before the deformation of the holding plate [(14)].

10. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~any of Claims 6 to 9, characterized in that~~ the spreading tool [(22)] is provided with an end face [(22c)] which can lie against a contact surface [(18a)] of the connection piece [(18)].

11. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 6, wherein ~~any of Claims 6 to 10, characterized in that~~ the stroke of the spreading tool [(22)] relative to the connection piece [(18)] is monitored in order to be able to detect the correct deformation of the holding plate [(14)].